



Virginia Commission on Youth 2020 Legislative Studies and Initiatives

Legal Guardianship of a Minor by Court Petition

Draft Recommendations	Public Comment
<p><u>Recommendation 1</u></p> <p>Request that the Virginia Department of Social Services convene a study group with impacted stakeholders to study ways to develop full/permanent, temporary, and limited guardianship in Virginia to reflect the need for additional permanency goals for children. Further, request that the Virginia Department of Social Services complete its study and submit a final report with recommendations the Commission on Youth and Governor by December 1, 2021.</p> <p>For this work group, the Virginia Department of Social Services shall collaborate with the family bar coalition, family law attorneys, the Supreme Court of Virginia, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court judges, local departments of social services, advocates, parents, and any other interested stakeholders that it deems appropriate.</p>	<p><u>Legal Aid Justice Center (LAJC):</u></p> <p>LAJC supports this recommendation. It will be important to collaborate with parents, youth, kinship caregivers, and other stakeholders in the foster care system with a particular focus on racial justice.</p> <p><u>York-Poquoson Department of Social Services:</u></p> <p>Fully in support of this recommendation.</p>

<p><u>Recommendation 2</u></p> <p>Request the Board of Social Services develop regulations for the use of family partnership meetings by local departments.</p>	<p><u>Legal Aid Justice Center (LAJC):</u></p> <p>LAJC supports this recommendation.</p> <p><u>Families Forward Virginia:</u></p> <p>Families Forward VA strongly supports Recommendation 2.</p>
<p><u>Recommendation 3</u></p> <p>Introduce a budget amendment to enact funding for a statewide Kinship Navigator Program. The budget amendment amount will be based on input from the Virginia Department of Social Services.</p>	<p><u>Legal Aid Justice Center (LAJC):</u></p> <p>LAJC supports this recommendation.</p> <p><u>Families Forward Virginia:</u></p> <p>Families Forward VA strongly supports Recommendation 3.</p>